

ATTACHMENT C

Clean Replacement/New Claims (entire set of pending claims)

Following herewith is a clean copy of the entire set of pending claims.

B
Q2

12. (Amended) An apparatus for marking a sheet-shaped workpiece, comprising at least one marking tool and at least one counter-support located opposite the marking tool, the apparatus being configurable with the workpiece disposed between the marking tool and the counter support, wherein the marking tool has a tool tip, which can be pressed onto or into a marking surface of the workpiece against a restoring force of an elastic element, the marking tool being fixed in place on a punch holder or a holder of a workpiece support table of a punch press, and wherein the counter-support can be fixed in place relative to the workpiece and disposed on a side of the workpiece opposite the marking surface.

13. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the counter-support includes at least one rotatable support roller or support ball for the movable support of the workpiece.

14. The apparatus according to claim 12 wherein the marking tool includes rotatable support rollers or support balls, seated in an elastically spring-loaded manner.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein spring travel of the support rollers or support balls is greater than spring travel of the tool tip.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

16. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein, in a rest position, the tool tip projects upwardly less than the support rollers or support balls, but wherein the support rollers or support balls are resiliently retractable to a lower position than the tool tip.

17. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein resiliency of the elastic elements of the support rollers is less than resiliency of the elastic element of the tool tip.

18. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the tool tip is selected from the group consisting of diamond, boron nitride or a hard alloy.

19. The apparatus according to claim 12 wherein the tool tip is cone-shaped.

20. The apparatus according to claim 12, including an adjustable support associated with the marking tool, by means of which the position of the tool tip and/or the prestress of its restoring spring can be adjusted.

21. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the marking tool comprises a tip capable of penetrating the surface of the workpiece to a predetermined depth to inscribe a mark.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

22. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the marking tool comprises an ink point for writing a marking on the surface of the workpiece.

23. The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the ink point comprises a ball point, a roller ball point, a felt tip or a grease pencil.

24. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the marking tool comprises brass or plastic.

25. (New) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the counter-support is aligned with the marking tool.

26. (New) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the counter-support can be fixed in place on the punch holder or the support table.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY